

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DLOS-06 SAL-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 COME-00  
STR-04 OMB-01 AID-05 EUR-12 ACDA-07 OES-06 L-03  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 IO-13 /113 W  
-----100017Z 117016 /72-61

O R 092335Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3166  
INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 0925

FOR ALLITTO ARA/AND/E

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR MASS FISH EINV ETRD EC PE  
SUBJ: MEETING OF THE SECRETARY WITH ECUADOREAN  
AMBASSADOR SHCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 11

1. WE BELIEVE SECRETARY SHOULD BE PREPARED TO DEAL WITH THE  
FOLLOWING TOPICS IN HIS MEETING WITH ECUADOREAN AMBASSADOR  
YCAZA, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND IS SCHEDULED FOR 09:15 A.M.  
FRIDAY, FEB 11: A) ECUADOR'S FEAR OF PERU, B) GOE'S DESIRE FOR  
DEFENSE EQUIPMENT, C) THE TUNA FISHERIES DISPUTE, D) ECUADOR'S  
EXCLUSION FROM THE GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES OF THE  
US TRADE LAW, AND E) THE BUY-OUT OF GULF BY THE GOE. BELOW ARE  
COMMENTS ON EACH OF THESE ITEMS.

2. FEAR OF ATTACK BY PERU. THE GOE AND MOST INFORMED ECUADOREAN  
CITIZENS HAVE A VERY REAL CONCERN ABOUT A POSSIBLE ATTACK BY  
PERU DURING THE NEXT FEW YEARS. REGARDLESS OF HOW THIS POSSIBILITY  
IS VIEWED ELSEWHERE, THE ECUADORIANS, RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY,  
PERCEIVE THE PERUVIANS AS A DANGEROUS ENEMY, WITH A GREAT  
ADVANTAGE BECAUSE OF SOVIET SUPPLIED ARMS, THAT WISHES TO CONQUER  
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ADDITIONAL ECUADOREAN TERRITORY, ESPECIALLY ECUADOR'S OIL FIELDS.

3. GOE DESIRE FOR DEFENSE EQUIPMENT. THE GOE'S PERCEPTION OF  
PERU CAUSES IT TO BELIEVE THAT IT HAS A LEGITIMATE NEED TO  
INCREASE THE READINESS OF ITS SMALLER, POORLY EQUIPPED AND POORLY  
TRAINED MILITARY FORCE. THE ECUADOREANS HAVE TRADITIONALLY  
LOOKED TO THE US FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE SECURITY AREA. THEY WERE

EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTED BY THE USG'S DECISION AGAINST THE SALE OF ISRAELI KFIRS, ARE FRUSTRATED THAT USG WILL NOT APPROVE THE SALE TO THEM OF THE I-HAWK, AND ARE HOPING FOR THE TRANSFER OF TWO DESTROYERS, WHICH THE ECUADORIAN NAVY WAS PROMISED IN WRITING BY TWO CNOS OF THE USNAVY. WE WILL BE SURPRISED IF AMBASSADOR YCAZA DOES NOT RAISE SOME OF THESE SUBJECTS, AND HE MAY PLEAD FOR ASSISTANCE FROM THE US ON THE BASIS THAT DEMOCRATICALLY INCLINED GOVERNMENTS OF THIS HEMISPHERE MUST PREVENT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SOVIET BEACHHEAD IN PERU.

4. FISHERIES PROBLEM. THE SECRETARY MAY WISH TO EXPRESS HIS HOPE THAT WE WILL GET THROUGH THE CURRENT TUNA FISHING SEASON WITHOUT SEIZURE OF US FISHING BOATS BY THE ECUADOREAN NAVY. THE STATEMENT BY OUR GOVERNMENT THAT WE ARE NEUTRAL IN THE PURCHASE OF LICENSES HAS GIVEN IMPATUS FOR US FISHERMEN TO PURCHASE ECUADOREAN FISHING LICENSES. WE BELIEVE THE LONG-RUN SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM IS THE CONCLUSION OF A COMPREHENSIVE LOS TREATY AND/OR THE NEGOTIATION OF A REGIONAL FISHERIES AGREEMENT FOR THE EASTERN PACIFIC. AMBASSADOR YCAZA COULD POSSIBLY REPEAT THE GOE'S REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS ON LOS MATTERS PRIOR TO THE NEXT LOS NEGOTIATING SESSION IN NEW YORK.

5. GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES. WE WOULD HOPE THE SECRETARY COULD REITERATE THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH'S COMMITMENT TO HAVING THE TRADE LAW AMENDED SO AS TO GIVE ECUADOR AND VENEZUELA ACCESS TO GSP.

6. GULF. THE SECRETARY MAY WISH TO STATE HIS SATISFACTION  
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ABOUT THE WAY IN WHICH THE GOE AND GULF OIL COMPANY EVIDENTLY HAVE REACHED A SOLUTION TO THEIR PROBLEMS IN A WAY THAT WAS MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY TO BOTH PARTIES; BUT AT THE SAME TIME EXPRESS CONCERN THAT THE BUY-OUT AGREEMENT WILL BE FINALIZED WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.  
BLOOMFIELD

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009